



SOCER ACTION

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO. VBP0351

JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA: 14

VIVA ITALIA: 14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ ΣΕΛΙΣ: 14

Vol. 12, No. 4

WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY, 1987

603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

\$1.60 recommended price only

CRUNCH!



Andrew Bernal, star of the Australian team which qualified for the 1985 World Youth Cup Finals, has been selected to play for the Spanish under-21 team.

It was only after selecting him that Spanish authorities learnt that he was ineligible because he played for the young Socceroos.

Bernal went to Spain in 1985 to try to fulfil his boyhood dream of playing in the Spanish First Division. Having spent time with Sporting Gijon, he is now playing for Jerez Cadiz in Second Division.

However, he could be back in Australia by June.

It was only when he arrived in Spain that he discovered that in spite of being a Spanish citizen because he had played for

BERNAL'S SET FOR SPAIN

But first former Roo star has to complete national service stint



JOHN MANGAN

friends for fear of being mobbed by fanatic Spanish fans who idolise their footballers.

When he did get a weekend off recently and went to a disco, word got back to the club that he and two or three of his team-mates had been seen partying at one o'clock in the morning. The next day he was brought before the manager and fined the equivalent of \$500 for undisciplined behaviour!

Australia he was classified as a foreign player. Spanish clubs only are allowed to field two foreign players in any game.

With the country's leading clubs spending millions of dollars on foreign stars with huge reputations it will be virtually impossible for Bernal to get a game at the level at which he thinks he can play.

However, Bernal does have one last hope.

It is possible if he completes 12-months national service in Spain he could be re-classified as a local player. He expects to know one way or the other by the end of the Spanish season. If he finds he cannot change his playing status he will return to Australia to reconsider his future.

Bernal is a graduate from the Australian Institute of Sport and played as a sweeper in Australia's World Youth Cup qualifying games in 1985 but went to Spain before the finals were played.

Bernal has had to make changes to his lifestyle to play football in Spain. He can rarely go out with his

Croatia denies Banovic claim

Melbourne Croatia reacted angrily to last week's story in "Soccer Action" in which Yaluka Banovic claimed that he had been "cooped" into thinking that Croatia was really keen to sign him.

"It did not seem possible to join Croatia... I just want all the Croatia supporters to know that it wasn't the money that stopped me returning this year... I was prepared to settle for a couple of thousand dollars signing on..."

Croatian secretary Stan Drazetic denied that it was the committee which claimed that it didn't want Banovic, the transfer list "wasn't even mentioned".

"We entered negotiations with Yaluka with good intentions. We decided that we would spend \$15,000 altogether to get Yaluka. We thought that we could get him for about \$10,000 and if that had been the case we would have been prepared to give him \$5,000 signing-on fee," said Drazetic.

"At first, Yaluka wanted \$15,000 to sign on, provided we only had to pay \$10,000 for his transfer. I understand that Yaluka was prepared to accept \$10,000 to sign on if we agreed to pay \$5,000 for his transfer. We had set that \$10,000 limit for the whole deal — transfer fee and signing-on fee — and weren't prepared to budge. That's why negotiations broke down," said Drazetic.

GONZALEZ SIGNS

NSW State League club Uruguay has signed former Uruguay international defender Washington Gonzalez and expects him to arrive in Sydney within the next three weeks.

Gonzalez is a former Nacional and Penarol player. He played for Nacional against Nottingham Forest in the Seiko Super Cup match in Tokyo in 1981. That game was for the world club championship and Nacional won 2-0.

Uruguay announced last week that it had changed its name. It was known as Auburn Uruguay last year but that's no longer the case. Auburn was one of the oldest clubs in NSW and, like Hakoah in Melbourne, now is no more.

CLOUGH SAYS SORRY

Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough has apologised for calling African soccer nations "a load of spearthrowers who still go around eating each other".

Clough made the remark after African countries said Britain should be restricted to a single national team — rather than four home country teams — in the 1990 World Cup.

Clough apologised after a West Indian group complained to the English Football Association. He will not be disciplined, an FA spokesman said.

INSIDE

• Straight Shooting with Peter Scott — p.5; Raul Blanco's back in town — p.3; George Cross star swept up the changing rooms — p.2; Meet the Dutch Maradona — p.12; Italy on course for European Championship Finals — p.15; Green Gully signs the \$50,000 man — p.10; NSW State Bank Challenge Cup — p.6.

SPORTS EXTRA

66 BRIDGE RD. RICHMOND
PH 429 3079

GRAND PRESEASON SALE

COME AND SEE CEDO
UP TO 50% OFF ON

Tracksuits, Tennis wear,
& Sports Shirts



CEDO CIRKOVIC

EXCLUSIVELY RECOMMENDED BY...

RALE RASIC
Australian World Cup Finalist Coach — 1974

"SOCER & TRAIN SOCCER BALLS... THE PERFECT MATCH"



Train

Notice to all Clubs — BUY DIRECT AND SAVE!

PHONE (03) 580 2217 FOR PROMPT & COURTEOUS SERVICE
2A FONSECA ST, MORDIALLOC.

SPORTS BALLS

SUPPLIER OF TOP QUALITY FIFA APPROVED
SOCCER BALLS (Leather, Hand Stitched)

"We Also Deliver"
in Metropolitan Area.



Andy Edwards with the George Cross team, back row: Steve Richardson, Lou Kastner, Sean Keogh, Andrew Marth, John Markovski, Carl Gilder, Kevin Innes, Noel Mitten, Don MacLaren. Front row: Paul Trimboli, Shaun Parton, Chris Taylor, Jeff Faulkner, Roger Bain, Edwards. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

Edwards: Made debut then cleaned out the rooms!

George Cross striker Andy Edwards had to clean out a changing room immediately after making his debut in senior soccer.

This, it must be hastily added, was not punishment for a poor display, but, as the groundstaff boy rostered for "home dressing-room duty", it was his responsibility to lay out Wrexham's kit before the match and mop out its changing room afterwards.

Edwards joined home town club Wrexham, then a proud member of English League Division Two, straight from school in 1981 and just over a year later was informed by manager Bobby Roberts that one and a set of strips the youngster had laid out for a Milk Cup game against Shrewsbury Town would be worn by him. This was just one hour before the kick-off!

Edwards replaced the injured Dixie McNeill (now Wrexham's manager) and made an impressive showing, slogging away tirelessly during a 1-0 win.

A Football League debut came a week later against Lin-

By PAUL MOON

coln City and he made 15 appearances during the 1982-83 season — an unhappy one for Wrexham which was relegated from Division Three.

The team's stamp continued. It ended the following campaign fifth from the bottom of Division Four, but nonetheless Edwards' career progressed quite nicely. Now a full-time professional, he had made 29 further league appearances and won caps for Wales at youth level.

The 1984-85 season saw him finish runner-up in the Wrexham Supporters' Club Player of the Year poll after scoring 11 goals in 37 games.

A hard-working, determined goal-creating graftier rather than a natural scorer, the blonde-faced (and occasionally midfielder) was given a free transfer in May 1986 by McNeill who prefers strikers to be in his own mould (he scored 236 league goals).

Edwards' release angered many Wrexham fans, thought most of whom will concede that

their team is now finding the back of the net more often.

Edwards played in 114 league games for the north Wales club and notched 27 goals. The respected observers of the English League Division Four contacted, rated him as

a "very useful" performer.

After a settling down period at the end of the last Australian season, the Welshman, who will be 22 on March 28, should now be ready to confirm his worth to George Cross followers.

Football for Africa



• Steve Archibald

Diego Maradona, the world's greatest footballer, and Pele and George Best, who both claimed that title in their heyday, could all be in action at Wembley in April.

Steve Archibald, the former Tottenham and Scottish striker now with Barcelona, is hoping to arrange a football for Africa fixture at Wembley and has representations of the English football association last week to discuss the matter.

Archibald, who stresses that this match has nothing to do with the Football League v The Rest of The World match proposed for next August, says that he hopes the idea of such a feast of football after seeing a Bob Geldof Live Aid programme.

"We were really shocked by the condition of people in Africa and began to organise a football spectacular," he says.

He has written to all the world's leading players and I have had replies from Maradona, Schuster, Valdano, Butragueno, Ardiles, Lineker, Hughes, Schumacher and Maradona's two brothers, plus the two Danes, Laudrup and Elkjaer, saying they will play.

"I am also hoping that Pele and Best could perhaps play for one half each. I want to stage the game hopefully at Wembley in April."

"I have already had FIFA permission to stage such a match."

An English FA official said that nothing definite had been decided and pointed out that all the world stars, even if they were prepared to play in such a match, would have to get permission from both their clubs and their national associations.

Archibald is not quite sure what the two teams will be called.

"Perhaps it could be the Rest of The World v Princess Anne's XI or something like that. That could be decided later if we get the go-ahead."

SOCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress Pty. Ltd., Incorporated in NSW, a Division of Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 6282, Melbourne 3001.

Distributed in Victoria by Magdiss Pty. Ltd., 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000; in SA by John Fairfax and Sons Ltd; in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000; in NSW, Queensland and WA by Network Distribution Company, 54 Park Street, Sydney 2000.

EDITOR: Craig MacKenzie

ASSISTANT EDITOR: John Mangan

MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Joe Palatsides

NEW SOUTH WALES: Gordon Durnford, The Globe Bridge Co, 64 Victoria St, North Sydney 2000. Phone: (02) 957 2033

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Tony Giuliani, Cumberland Media, 12 Eaton St, Cumberland Park, 5000. Phone: 271 3450.

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Paula Parker

Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St, Melbourne 3000.

Printer and Publisher: L.J. Shaw

Printers: Printers Office (03) 560 5111.

Proprietor: Newspress, a division of Syne Media Pty. Ltd., 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne, 3000.

"Soccer Action" regrets that it is not possible for it to verify information other than that conveyed in editorial content of the publication. Although "Soccer Action" uses its best endeavours to ensure the accuracy of everything it publishes, the Fair Trading Act 1985 requires "Soccer Action" to disclaim any belief in the truth of falsity of information which is supplied to it and which is published in other than editorial content.

The publisher's terms and conditions are set out in its current advertising section which is available on request. They include an exemption clause, a limitation of liability clause and an indemnity from the advertiser and advertising agent. Advertisers and agents are advised to read the card before placing any advertisements or series of advertisement.

Williams joins Springvale, Boland next?

By JOHN MANGAN

Victorian State League club Springvale City signed Jim Williams and Dragan Vasic last week and was rumored to be interested in Dennis Boland.

Vasic, who played with Springvale coach Bobby McLachlan at Footscray JUST, was bought from Royal Richmond for \$1,800. Vasic was the leading scorer in the Second Division of the Victorian League last season and was beaten on a countback by Royal Richmond team mate Joe Picicane for the best and fairest award in Second Division.

Williams, a former Victorian representative, made his mark at St Kilda before joining Heidelberg. It was McLachlan who then brought Williams to Green Gully in the early 1980s and last year Williams played with Altona Gate.

McLachlan expects the State League to be a tougher competition this year than it has been for quite a while. He expects Williams to be an inspiration to his team.

"It's so refreshing seeing a player like Jim at training. He's so competitive and he's got such an appetite for the game that it puts younger players to shame — and this is a man who has won so many medals at Green Gully," said McLachlan.

Springvale also has appointed Billy Milne as reserve team coach. Milne comes to Springvale after spending a couple of seasons with Gus Macleod at Fawkner.

Boland was one of many Frankston Pines players to ask to go on the transfer list after Pines lost 4-2 to Preston Marconi in the Buffalo Cup last Saturday night.

The recent upheaval at Pines, which saw the club forced to close its social rooms thereby losing a vital source of income, has led to a lot of unrest among the players.

"Soccer Action" reported last week that most players had settled down after a new committee was voted into office but it seems that that isn't the case.

Alex Dick and John Cullen have joined Boland on the transfer list, both at their own request, and clubs no doubt will be clamoring for their services.

Pines are rumored to be offering just \$40 a fortnight to their first team players, making them the lowest paid in the Victorian State League.

Boland is on a free transfer so the former South Melbourne Hellas and Footscray JUST goalkeeper, who still is one of the finest custodians in Victoria, certainly won't be short of offers.

Meanwhile, Thomastown has placed eight players on the transfer list. In addition to



• Jim Williams



• Frank Farina: "Everything is so professional at Marconi, down to the little things. All the gear is supplied, they have a full-time physio and full-time groundsmen — it's excellent."

FEE HOLDS NO FEARS FOR FRANK

By JOHN MANGAN

Playing with a \$30,000 price-tag on his head doesn't concern Marconi's exciting new signing from Sydney Hakoah, Frank Farina.

"The club obviously decided before they bought me that they wanted me and I've just got to go out now and play my natural game," the Soccerco striker said.

Sometimes a club can spend a lot of money on a player and the player's game, but it's not the case at Marconi.

"We're not a one-man team and I'm not the only new signing in the side so I'm in a position where I can just get on with playing the game — which is what I have been doing," said Farina.

Eddie Thomson, Farina's coach at Sydney Hakoah, was reluctant to let Farina leave the club but the departure was an amicable one.

"Eddie rang me on the Saturday morning before my first game for Marconi to wish me all the best. He told me to forget the pressure and just go out and play," said Farina.

At Marconi, Farina is teaming up with Gerardo Gomez who also made the move over the summer from Sydney Hakoah.

"Gerry's position was different to mine — he had requested a transfer — while in my case Marconi had approached Hakoah and then Hakoah asked me if I wanted to go."

A number of top players have left Hakoah over the close season for various reasons. John Kosmina couldn't agree terms and joined Olympic, while Joe Watson wanted to take the post of player-coach at NSW Second Division club Kingsford. Hakoah released Watson on a free transfer as he had given many years of service to the club.

Farina is understandably excited about having joined a club which he acknowledges has, on paper, one of the best teams in the country. But it's not just that that has impressed Farina.

"Everything is so professional at Marconi, down to the little things. All the gear is supplied, they have a full-time physio and full-time groundsmen — it's excellent."

"And of course having an Italian name doesn't do any harm in a club like this," he joked.

Farina is also fortunate that he knew most of the Marconi players before he joined as well as having played with many of them in the national team. With only a handful of games under his belt for Marconi he feels very much at home in his new surroundings.

Marconi's new coach, Roberto Vieri, seems destined to end the team's image of being a cautious, defensive outfit.

"Roberto likes the close-in stuff, the one-touch football, and if you look at our team with players like Gerry (Gomez), David Lowe and Ian Gray, we have a very attacking midfield."

Farina will be teaming up in Marconi's forward-line with another newcomer, Steve Maxwell, who has made the trip from Australia to join the squad. Farina says that Maxwell is settling in well and, certainly, in the State Bank Challenge Cup, both strikers have been putting the ball in the back of the net.

Farina is looking forward to a successful year with the new-look Marconi line-up and thinks that Marconi's depth will be crucial as the season unfolds.

VICTORIAN INDOOR SOCCER CENTRE SPORTS SHOP

HAS IN STOCK A LARGE RANGE OF SOCCER GEAR

**BUFFALO — MITRE — DAFCO
UMBRO — UHLSPORT
REUSCH — PATRICK**

Shirts, Shorts, Socks, Shinpads, Training & Match Balls

Latest style of

- GOALKEEPING GEAR
- FOOTWEAR SPECIALS
- TRAINING SHOES
- SOCCER BOOTS

**LOTTO — BUFFALO
PATRICK — DIADORA**

This advertisement entitles you to a 10% discount

**PLAY INDOOR SOCCER IN AUSTRALIA'S NO 1 CENTRE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Come along & see the Van Egmond family at

3 BURTON CRT BAYSWATER OR RING 729 1999

BLANCO'S BACK!

Raul Blanco is back in town!

After an absence of 18 months, the ex-coach of St George, Marconi Canterbury, Melita Eagles and assistant to the Australian national youth coach has returned from a successful visit to Argentina.

Les Shernfug, Mike Urukale, Rale Rasic, Ljubo Gojkovic... just some of his colleagues and close friends who were among the first to greet the likeable Blanco, affectionately known as "Menotti".

Blanco's been a long time gone from Sydney, so

By
ALEX VESIC

how did he spend his time on a continent where football is not merely sport, but life itself?

"I am usually not short of words, but there are no adequate words to describe the way you feel if you are closely involved in the game in Argentina. An example was the 1986 World Cup Final. The streets of Buenos Aires were totally deserted. There was no life at all."

Then Diego Maradona sent that incredible pass to Burruchaga and Argentina became champion of the world for the second time in eight years. It was incredible," said Blanco.

"People poured into the streets by the thousands. A city of 10 million looked as if it had fifty million people. All the country's massive economic problems were forgotten. The problems caused by the military also were forgotten with people streaming into the streets with tears of joy."

Blanco coached Dock Sud, the Argentinian side

which in 1985 finished eighth and was looking for a miracle in 1986 to reach the Second Division. Blanco provided that miracle.

"I had problems at the start of my stay in Argentina. I was hoping for an extended holiday and was given an offer by Dock Sud on my arrival. However, I could not coach since I didn't have an Argentinian coaching badge. Not to dwell on this point too long, I went through a series of formalities and a couple of long interviews before obtaining a badge which gave me the chance to coach."

"I was working close to the home of San Telmo, the team I played for in my youth. In fact it was San Telmo which stood in the way of Dock Sud and a place in Second Division and we had to play two games against San Telmo to decide which side would be promoted. We drew 0-0 and won 3-2 in the return leg."

"I still get goose pimples, just thinking about that second game. The roar of the crowd and the approval they show of the spectacle is incredible."

"At times it is almost frightening!"

Being at the centre of football euphoria in Latin America obviously reminded Blanco of his playing days and rekindled his enthusiasm for the game.

"I remember going to see Boca Juniors playing River Plate with 90,000 people in attendance. One side of the ground was populated by Boca supporters and the other by River Plate supporters. The singing went on for the full 90 minutes and it was rivalry at its best."

"While one side of the ground was singing and

dancing to the beat of drums the other was hushed just waiting its turn. Whichever group of supporters you happen to be with you go along with their singing and dancing or you wind up in trouble."

It is that kind of atmosphere that gives Argentinian soccer a fervor unique in South America.

Brazilians have their sambas while the Argentinians sing. And play great football too!

But surely there is life outside of football.

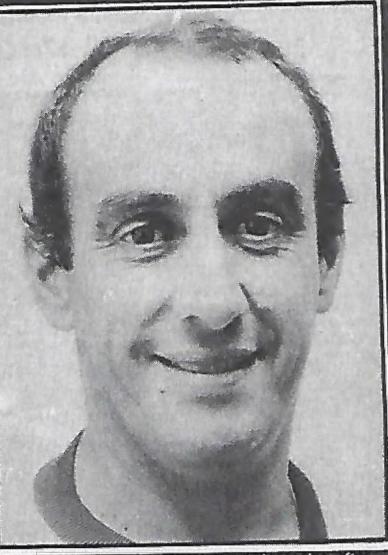
"If there is I haven't seen it," said Blanco.

"I used to walk along Hingeniero Huergo, the street close to Dock Sud stadium. There was this little shop I used to go to and buy drinks or sweets. Along the road you'd meet a milkman, a shop owner, a pensioner, a housewife or children and without exception they'd clench their fists in salute to you and your team. 'We are going to win on Sunday, eh?' they'd ask but there was no way I could get involved in any conversation or I'd never get home!"

"Do you know that for about a week after Argentina won the World Cup about 25,000 people stood in front of Diego Maradona's home in Buenos Aires chanting: 'Diego! Diego! Diego!' His mother would turn up on the balcony every now and then to wave to the crowd."

So why did Blanco decide to return to Australia?

"My 20 years in Australia was not just a period of time that passed without friends being made. And I think I made a fair number of friends. Those I remembered from my youth in Argentina have gone, some to other cities, while some have vanished. I felt happy with my family, my



• Raul Blanco — back from Argentina after taking Dock Sud to promotion to Second Division.

parents, my brother, my two sisters, but I realised my home was the one I made for myself in Australia and I knew that my holiday had to come to an end."

So what does Blanco think about Australia's chance at World Cup level after his stay in the country of the world champion?

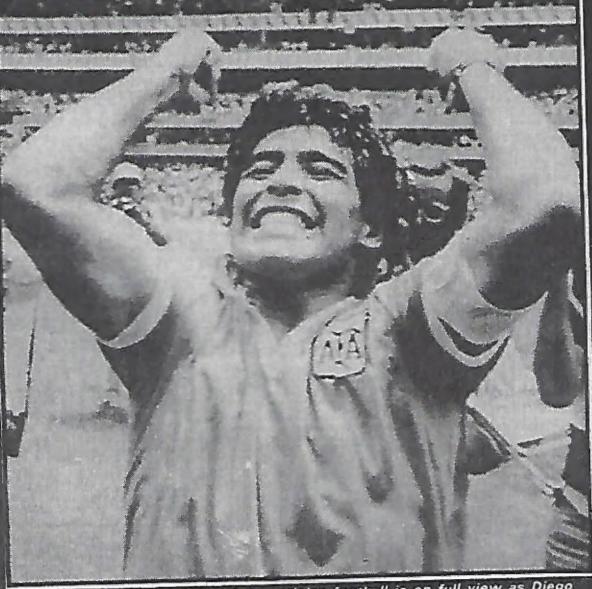
"We have to work at it, but let's not forget that we have as many successful youth players as anybody else in the world. Burruchaga and Clausen were in the World Youth Cup in 1981 and part of the Argentinian team that was defeated by Australia 2-1. Five years later they

were in the side which won the World Cup!"

"In the meantime let's not forget our successful players from our 1981 national youth team. Mitchell is in West Germany, Patikas in Greece, Raskopoulos and Wheatley are in the national side and Blair is on the sidelines waiting for his chance to get into the team. Oscar Crino has played abroad. There was and still is a lot of talent in Australia."

His beloved Buenos Aires now is as far away as ever. Hingeniero Huergo, Dock Sud and San Telmo are just memories, albeit great ones.

Raul Blanco is back and back to stay.



• The power and passion of Argentinian football is on full view as Diego Maradona celebrates his country becoming champion on the world.

INDOOR SOCCER STADIUMS

**ARE NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR
ITS FIRST INDOOR SOCCER SEASON**

**Nominate your Mens, Ladies or Junior Teams now and
be part of Australia's Premier Indoor Soccer Arena**

- EXTRA LARGE PLAYING SURFACE FOR SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION
- TOP REFEREES
- COMFORTABLE SPECTATOR SEATING & FACILITIES
- RUBBER BACKED "SUPERGRASSE" PLAYING SURFACE FOR PLAYER COMFORT
- FULLY NETTED PLAYING SURFACE WITH ROUNDED CORNERS
FOR FAST COMPETITION

GRADING GAMES PRESENTLY BEING CONDUCTED

NOMINATE YOUR TEAM NOW!

Vacancies filling fast ring the centre on 383 1933.

92 HOLMES ST, BRUNSWICK

"COME MEET THE CHALLENGE"

PRICE TAKES HELLAS TO THE TOP SPOT

AMPOL

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AMPOL CUP

with ALLAN CRISP

Group A standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Ad. Juventus	2	0	0	7	0	4
Beograd	1	0	1	2	2	2
Campbelltown	1	0	1	2	2	2
Salisbury	0	0	2	0	7	0

Group B standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Ad. Hellas	2	0	0	9	3	4
Ad. Croatia	1	1	0	4	3	3
Para Hills	0	1	1	3	5	1
Polonia	0	0	2	3	8	0

CAMPBELLTOWN CITY 2 (Amos 22nd and 72nd), BEGRAD 1 (Preston 65th) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 2400 (double-header). Referee: Bob Kerr 7. Caution: Amos (CC).

CAMPBELLTOWN CITY: R. Parks 9, Richardson 7, Duwerkerk 7, Tufts 8, Goss 6 (Amos 41st), Amos 8, Welsh 8 (Daley 41st), Beltram 7, Hayday 7, Gray 7, McLean 7, Coach: David Jenkins.

BEGRAD: Pasquini 6, Kozman 7, Signore 8, Greaves 8, Alberton 6, Douglas 7 (Milar 67th), M. Brazza 6 (Welsh 41st), A. Brazza 7, Goldsmith 6 (Rusini 41st), Arezina 8, Preston 7, Coach: Norman Lees.

ADELAIDE HELLAS 3 (Price 2nd and 33rd, Atsalas 56th) PARA HILLS 1 (B. Crook 18th) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Referee: Graham Neal 7. Caution: Mousoulis (Hellas).

ADELAIDE HELLAS: Sproul 7, Frantzis 7, Hiern 8, Mousoulis 7, Panagiotis 7 (Stefanopoulos 74th), Keramidas 6 (Atsalas 41st), Hristodoulou 7, Horeyman 7, Konstandopoulos 8 (Koufoulis 74th), Price 8, Coach: Peter Jaksas.

PARA HILLS: M. Crook 9, Harvey 7 (Dawson 47th), Tomlinson 7, Humphreys 8, Horry 7, Leembruggen 6 (Waine 70th), Klein 7, T. Blute 6, B. Crook 7, Coach: Barry Simpson.

After scoring a hat-trick for Hellas in its first game against Polonia, diminutive Gary Price delivered the goods again to lead the blue and whites to the top of Group B.

Price this time notched two goals to sink Para Hills and assure Hellas a semi-final berth.

Second half substitute Steve Atsalas made it 3-1 with a 56th minute effort for his second goal of the series, but the scoreline failed to tell the dramatic story of the heroic resistance displayed by former Hellas goalkeeper Martyn Crook.

After 11 years of faithful service to Hellas, Martyn Crook returned to his former club to be faced by his ex-Hellas team-mates.

Familiarity, it seems, breeds contempt, because Hellas threw everything at its former hero in the first 30 minutes, but apart from Price's second minute goal when he was cruelly exposed, Martyn Crook performed brilliantly.

The former Socceroo had the crowd roaring as he stopped drives from George Konstandopoulos (three) and Lou Hristodoulou and generally marshalled his Para Hills defenders.

Crook's efforts and a penalty

converted by young brother, Barry, kept the score at 1-1 until the 33rd minute when Price hit home his second goal.

Hellas had experienced Gary Sproul back in goal at the expense of young Peter Theodorakos, who earned rave notices for his performance against Polonia.

Para welcomed back former captain Lauris Humphreys after a year out of the game because of a knee injury, and Geoff Tomlinson, who has returned from England.

Rothmans Cup champions Campbelltown City won its first game of the series with two penalty kicks from captain Steve Amos to throw the Group A semi-final spots into confusion.

With Campbelltown and Beograd locked together on two points each after two games, the semi-finalists could be decided on goal-difference.

But Campbelltown's chances of major round participation appear better because it must face Salisbury United in its next match, while Beograd must play national champion

at sweeper, Gray was commanding in the midfield and McNally proved an effective striker.

Beograd had its stroke of luck with the return to duty of experienced Brian Welsh, Richard Preston and Dusan Rusmir.

It was makeshift striker Paul Beltrame who engineered the first goal with a header which Beograd's Martin Goldsmith handled on the goal-line with his goalkeeper Frank Pasquini.

The new trio were instant successes — Tufts was superb



Steve Atsalas of Adelaide Hellas (second from left) heads past former team mate Martyn Crook, now the first choice goalkeeper at Para Hills. Picture: FRANK HOBBS.

Adelaide City Juventus tonight

Campbelltown had a pre-match set-back when it lost striker Chris Key because of an eye injury suffered while playing tennis.

It was a new-look City which faced Beograd as manager-coach David Jenkins paraded new signings Bobby Tufts, Duane Gray and Steve McNally.

The new trio were instant successes — Tufts was superb

beaten.

Amos expertly slammed the spot-kick home — a feat he repeated after David Alberton handled the ball in the 72nd minute.

In between those penalties, Beograd levelled through Preston, but despite some desperately hard running from Djuro Arezina and Andy Brazza and some enterprising forward moves, Campbelltown's brilliant goalkeeper Robbie Parks had the final say.

VICTORIAN WOMENS SOCCER ASSOCIATION

requires

STATE SENIOR COACH & STATE U/18 COACH

(Honorary position)

Senior National Title from the 22/8/87 - 5/9/87 (Alice Springs)

U/18 National Titles from 4/7/87 - 12/7/87 (Brisbane)

enquiries:

Nicki Kinna 222 2223, Debbie Nichols 605 6269

Applications including details of qualifications & experience should be forwarded to:

The Secretary V.W.S.A., 7 Derby Rd, Boronia 3155 by 22 February 1987.

DAFCO WORLD SPORT

DAFCO

- Match Balls, hand sewn by mastercraftsmen
- Training balls, hand sewn
- Shin guards, knee and elbow pads.
- Studs • Goal keepers gloves
- Goalkeepers wear • Outfield shorts
- General accessories • All products chosen for quality from world-wide sources



- Goalkeepers gloves
- Superb West German craftsmanship
- Arguably Europe's most popular brand now available in Australia
- As used by many World Cup Goalkeepers



double C

- First quality nylon wound match balls
- Felt covered indoor balls
- Low-bound indoor balls

SEE YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS SHOP

8-day training trek for Olympia

By WALTER PLESS

Olympia-WPL set a precedent in Tasmanian soccer this week when the club's senior squad embarked on an 8-day training camp in Sydney.

The side left Hobart last Saturday and will return this Sunday.

"I thought I could prepare the team better for the start of the season in terms of a system of play by going on this training trip," coach Ken Morton said.

"We've had 18 training sessions to date and this will be the finale to our pre-season work."

Olympia will play three practice matches against New South Wales state league teams Sutherland, Blacktown City and Melita Eagles.

The trip is costing \$10,000 and the players raised the money themselves through various fund-raising ventures.

The Olympia squad making the trip is: Martin Burden, Chris Hey, Matthew Blomfield, David Crosson, Michael Berwick, Chris Barrell, Roger Munro, Michael Goldsmith, Perry Forster, Paul Xanthopoulos, Craig Nichols, Andrew Hart, Anthony Greenwood, Paul Tsangaris, Con Tsikas, Marco Nikitaras, George Xanthopoulos and John Collar.

Pless appointed

Karl Pless has been appointed senior coach of Cad-



Peter Angel (left) of White Eagles confronts Ronnie de Felice of Juventus-Pioneer. Eagles won this pre-season friendly 2-1.

bury State League club

minute, despite having signed a contract.

Calies intend taking some form of proceedings against Tibbot for breach of contract.

Pless, who gained his Level Three coaching certificate last November, has coached at both Ju-

nior and senior levels with Crotat-Glenorchy and Clarence, respectively.

Calies have signed four new players, while former player Robin Dodds has returned from Western Australia, where he moved late last season.

Glen Callaghan, a 29-year-old defender comes from Geelong, while Brett Atkins is from Wodonga.

Mark Honeyman has joined the club from Rapid and David Arnott has signed after being away from Hobart for the past six years.

Tuting back

Vic Tuting MBE has been re-elected as president of the Tasmania Soccer Federation, a position he has held since 1958.

Tuting, a senior vice-president of the ASF, was first elected to the TSF in July, 1973.

Roy Stoneman and Ross Wesson are joint vice-presidents of the TSF. Stoneman also is the treasurer.

Eagles triumph

White Eagles, the reigning Cadbury State League champions, beat Juventus-Pioneer 2-1 in a pre-season friendly last week.

Andrew Leszczynski, from the penalty spot, and David Stoddart gave Eagles a 2-0 half-time lead before Frank Genovese pulled a goal back for Juventus in the second half.

Both teams have new coaches, with former player Bob Rybak taking over at Eagles from Steve Darby, who is now living in Canberra, and Peter Irvine, last year's Newcastle boss replacing David Smith at Juventus.

Two for Azzurri

Newcomer to the Cadbury State League, Hobart City-Azzurri, has signed Neil Bishop from Ararat and Franco Previtali from West Eagles.

Both strikers will join Previtali in the Cascades Summer Cup series as he will undergo a knee operation soon.

Howrah duo Karl Brightman and Duncan Swift are training with City, as is Metro's Brett House, while the club is also negotiating with Inter-Monaro's Carlo Ambrosino.

Another player training with City is Johan Hosenhill, formerly with Box Hill and Willemina in Victoria.

City was scheduled to travel north on the weekend to meet Uverstone and Devonport City in pre-season friendlies.

Parker to go?

Top Tasmanian striker Ian Parker of Caledonians has been training with and playing friendly matches for Juventus-Pioneer.

Parker's future with Calies is uncertain but it is not unusual for him to train with other clubs in the pre-season months before returning to Calies just before the first ball is kicked in.

NORTHCOTE SPORTS CENTRE

Large range of:

SHIRTS — SHORTS — SOCKS
TRAINING BALLS & MATCH BALLS
and PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Latest styles of goalkeeper gloves, tops, shorts & padded pants

New style referee's tops & shorts

LARGE RANGE OF BOOTS

Generous discounts to all clubs

555 HIGH ST, NORTHCOTE

Ph. 481 2275

CATALOGUES AVAILABLE



Straight Shooting

with PETER SCOTT



Frank Lowy may be president of Sydney's Hakoah Club and have a decisive say in Westfield affairs but soccer fans needn't get carried away by Westfield's takeover of the Ten Network. It's not going to lead to a major commercial TV breakthrough for the code in this country.

NO. 1 SOCCER SPECIALIST

FOR ALL YOUR SOCCER NEEDS

BOOTS, BALLS, TRACKSUITS, CONES, FLAGS, NETS,
SHORTS, GLOVES, SHINPADS, ETC.



WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON QUALITY

578 BARKLY ST, WEST FOOTSCRAY

Tel (03) 689 9875

THAT MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM IS UPON US AGAIN

Once again, it seems, that soccer — or more precisely the West End National League — is off on a chase after the rainbow.

Our officialdom is off into battle, with Summer Soccer boldly emblazoned on its banners.

From the way the bandwagon has gathered speed in recent weeks it may seem a wise move to find a bookie willing to offer odds on a switch in seasons.

Now don't misunderstand me, I am not opposed to the idea, not at all.

Summertime football, during months of daylight saving and balmy nights, played on pitched lush and green, instead of muddy and bony, has to be a vast improvement on current conditions during the height of winter in July and early August especially.

Yes, not only am I not opposed to the innovation — I am, in fact, positively in favor of it.

But, as so often in the past, once again I would risk getting under the skin of our soccer administrators by playing Devil's Advocate.

What disturbs me is that with soccer in an almighty hole in this country, and seemingly furiously engaged in digging itself in ever deeper, with an enthusiasm bordering on desperation the West End NSL clubs give all the appearance of looking on the summer soccer idea as the way and the means of saving their bacon, putting them firmly on the road to long-term success.

That is a beautiful dream, but with dispassionate examination falls far short of reality.

A change of seasons can only be considered part of a package of measures which are needed to start the long climb back to the pedestal on which soccer was some 20 years ago.

Vastly improved club management is a major priority, with only a few clubs measuring up to the task in this most vital of all areas.

A professional attitude to public and media relations is another element where shortcomings are often just short of tragic — although improvements have been made.

The upgrading of facilities has been lurching ahead in a stop-go fashion, but some of the grounds are a little less Spartan than they were a few years ago.

But all the foregoing pale into insignificance against the most vital factor of all.

Two decades and more ago facilities were much worse than now and club management — with some rare exceptions — wasn't of a particularly high standard, either.

What was better was the sheer quality and entertainment value of the soccer served up by our top teams and players.

No amount of jargon by current day coaches, no learned work by soccer "academics" about the improvements in fitness, strength and speed of the game will convince this columnist to change his mind.

What's more, I am supported by the hundreds and thousands who have gone missing from the soccer stadia of this country since the 1960s.

The vanishing fan is not a phenomena unique to Australia, the same has been happening world-wide for many years.

Our problem is that countries like England, Argentina and the rest of them have started their decline in crowd figures from a much higher level.

If a 50,000 average per game falls to 30,000 the consequences may well be near disastrous financially, but the atmosphere, excitement and sheer magic created by a big crowd roaring its encouragement week in and week out still is there.

On the other hand, the drop in Australian support has seen crowds sink into the hundreds in many, many cases.

Nor was the cancer of so-called modern football, a world-wide disease as far as I am concerned, the only culprit.

There were the well documented self-inflicted wounds as well.

Such as the Great Name Witch Hunt, which turned uncounted thousands of ethnic supporters off our game for good.

Or the helter skelter expansion of the NSL to 24 teams when we had — maybe, just maybe — enough good players by current standards to staff, say, 10 teams.

All in all, summer soccer, while a highly desirable move if implemented sensibly and with sensitivity, can only have any lasting beneficial effect on the game in Australia if part of a much larger, all encompassing package of administrative and technical reforms.

Anything short of that will see our change of seasons becoming just another way-station in soccer's decline into terminal mediocrity.

Selective listening

Many of the accusations levelled at soccer's bosses in Australia concentrate on their glaring unwillingness and seeming inability to listen to advice.

This, of course, isn't entirely true.

What is manifestly true, though, is the fact that the game's decisionmakers seem to have an uncanny ability to sift through advice and adopt as their own only the bad kind.

Summer soccer, previously mooted but defeated by the concerted campaign of a narrow section of the media is the most topical example.

Then we had the snake oil salesmen who saw salvation in American style nicknames.

Or the promoters who weren't backward in frankly admitting — in the company of media men and women

— that they found the sport from which their livelihood was derived a colossal bore.

Or the dinky-di smarties who managed to get traditional names banned and in one fell swoop managed to banish a generation and a half of soccer's natural supporters.

Will this knock for listening to bad advice finally disappear?

On the answer hangs soccer's survival and the chances — however slim at this point in time — of its climb back to big-time status.

Misplaced hopes?

There was an unmistakable ripple of excitement in soccer circles when Westfield's takeover of television channels 10 in Sydney and Melbourne was announced early last week.

Soccer, or more accurately the NSL, is still in search of commercial television exposure.

Frankly, even a bit of ABC would be more palatable than the much underestimated and unappreciated SBS coverage.

It is no secret that the man who has the decisive say in Westfield affairs is Frank Lowy, who is deeply steeped in soccer involvement and tradition.

Lowy is president of Sydney's Hakoah Club, was one of the two prime movers in the establishment of the NSL — Sir George Grossman's marketing board when it became abundantly clear that the "train" was pulling out of the station either with him, or without him. However, those expecting an inclination towards giving soccer exposure on the Ten Network now taking shape are probably deluding themselves and there are a number of reasons for this.

First and foremost Frank Lowy is a businessman and a brilliant one at that.

He has already made it quite clear — and he didn't really have to — that the purchase of television interests was purely a business decision.

Soccer, or any other category of programming, will only make an appearance on his stations if such decision can be justified in an atmosphere of harsh business reality.

And if that wasn't enough of a reason, then the fact that Lowy has completely given soccer away in recent years, not even attending Hakoah games, is another pointer to his attitude in this matter.

The Westfield boss has much bigger fish to fry, as last week's events amply illustrated.

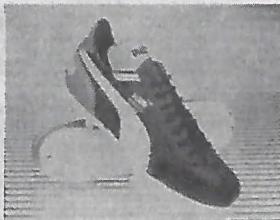
SOUTHERN AUSTRALIAN, WEDNESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 1987 — Page 7

ALLISONS SPORTS

ONE STOP SOCCER SHOP

- The biggest range of boots over 60 styles to choose from
- The biggest range of training and match balls
- The biggest range of team strips (Puma, Patrick, Inter), design your own
- The biggest range of goalkeeper's equipment (gloves, shorts, pants, tops, etc.)
- The biggest range of protective equipment

WHY GO ELSEWHERE WHEN ALLISONS HAS IT ALL



1 ACHILLES WEDGE



2 UNITED



3 MEXICO



4 SUPER SPORT II

ALLISONS SPORTS

1987



RANGE

355 CENTRE RD BENTLEIGH
PH 557 1917



5 MARADONA 10



6 SPIRIT

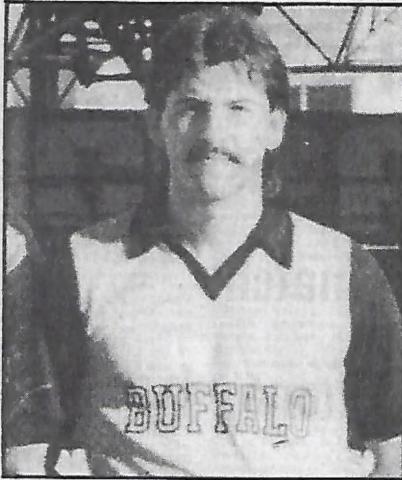


7 SUPER BOOT



8 DERBY

KETSAKIDIS!



• Chris Ketsakidis — his goal broke the deadlock for Heidelberg against JUST.

**Heidelberg 1
Foot JUST 0**
Scorer: Ketsakidis 63rd.

JUST can well consider itself unlucky to have been bundled out of contention so early in this year's Buffalo Cup after its defeat on Saturday night at the hands of a talented Heidelberg line-up.

The team has improved markedly in each game this season and with Tyrone James added to the defence and coach Dragoslav Sekularac back at the helm, JUST was no pushover for a Heidelberg side which proved to calibre the previous week in a hard fought game against Helensvale.

In a close match with plenty of chances, it was Heidelberg's Chris Ketsakidis who broke the deadlock in the 63rd minute when he met a free-kick from Peter Tsokalis and drilled it past JUST goalie Zoran Vlajnic.

Vlajnic had single-handedly denied Heidelberg with a

**Man of the match:
ZORAN VLJNIC
(JUST)**

string of memorable saves starting in the 9th minute with a one-hander, palming a vicious Claude Lucchesi header just wide of the post in a manner reminiscent of Gordon Banks' save from Pele in the 1970 World Cup.

Laurie McKenna took no time to find his place in the Helensvale line-up and shone, and looked very comfortable next to Kiwi Andy Deetey.

John Anastasiadis also displayed some deft touches particularly a back-heal early in the game which unfortunately surprised his team-mates as much as his marker and no one was on hand to take advantage of it.

Ernie Tapai was a dynamo for JUST in a midfield which Sekularac had assembled without Mino Tri Vo, the star of JUST's last outing.

James looked confident and his strong tackling and intelligent passing sent JUST forward on a number of occasions.

But ultimately it was a game which a JUST team still finding its feet, his year could not afford to lose, even by the narrowest of margins, and the team will have to content itself with watching the finals of the Buffalo Cup from the sidelines.

— JOHN MANGAN

BUFFALO CUP

GREEN GULLY 1 (Ward 5th) CROYDON 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Crowd: about 500. Referee: Andy Frangou 2. Caution: J. Nelson (C).

GREEN GULLY Denys 7 — McLennan 7, Cannell 7, Grimaud 6, Douglas 7 — Fraser 5, Quigley 6, O'Donnell 6 (inj), Deakin H.T. 5), Carter 5 — Ward 6, Cumming 6, Coach: Gus Macleod.

CROYDON: Waterman 6 — Marshall 6 (inj), Livingstone 52nd, Brack 7, O'Reilly 7, Brown 8 — McDonald 6, Beach 6, J. Nelson 7 — Cooper 6, Bregan 6, French 8, Coach: Jim Tansey.

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS 1 (Brown 62nd) ST ALBANS DINAMO 0 at Olympic Park, last Wednesday night. Crowd: about 500 (double header). Referee: John Fraser 6. Caution:

Duzel (Dinamo). CULLEN 6, Grbic 5, Fabrizio 7, Petersen 6, Lans 5, Wilson 6, Connelly 7, Ian McHenry 7, ST ALBANS DINAMO: Grigic 7 — Wilson 5, Krasic 7, Brikacic 7, Ramjak 6 — Culine 5, Duzel 7, Batimovic 5, Rastotic 7 — Runje 7, Morovic 6, Coach: Tony Trimboli.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 6 (Egan 16th, 60th, Blair 18th, Wright 34th, Stevenson 53rd, Kalogerous 58th) BOX HILL 0 at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about 3,500. Referee: Colin Ellis 3.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Laumets 5 — Russell 7, Blair 6, Anazakis 7, Milos 6 — Kalogerous 7, Miranda 8, Wade 7, Crainie 8 (inj), Andriotes 6 (1st) — Egan 7, Wright 6 (Stevenson 45th), Coach: Brian Garvey.

BOX HILL: McMillan 5 — McPherson 3, McMillan 4, Davidson 4, Brimmer 3 — Marzocchi 5 (J. Mon 45th), Burton 5, Hennessy 5, White 4 — Griffin 5, D. Mon 6, Coach: George Murray.

SOUTH MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 GEORGE CROSS 0 at Olympic Park last Friday night. Crowd: about 2,000. Referee: Stuart Manning 5.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Runje 7 — Mcintosh 6, Dunn 7, Hannah 6 — Tadic 8, Campbell 6, MacLean 6, Redmond 5 — Humble 7, Lewis 7, Lemezina 6 (Biskic 53rd), Coach: Terry Hennessy.

GEORGE CROSS: Keogh 7 — Martin 6, Parson 6, Richardson 6, Taylor 6 — Mitten 6, MacLaren 6 (Markovski 52nd), Innes 7, Bain 5 — Gilder 7, Edwards 6 (Trimboli 52nd), Coach: John Gardiner.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA 4 (van Emond 21st, 37th, 63rd, Slivkins 8th) FRANKSTON PINES 2 (Miller 40th, Ross 57th) at Olympic Park last Saturday night. Crowd: about 3,000. Referee: Rudi Simon 6. Caution: Dick (FP).

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Lee 6 — McLean 5, Opasini 6 (Kondinski 66th), Dobson 6 — Slivkins 8 (Trimboli 37th), Slivkins 7 — Markley 7, Marley 6 — van Emond 8, Iloski 6 — Cole 7, Gojew 7, Coach: Bill Murray.

FRANKSTON PINES: Boland 7 — Cummings 5, Bozic 6, Parks 6 — Watson 6, Cullen 5 (Henry 67th), Ross 7 (Richardson 67th), Ferris 6, Miller 7 — Dick 6, Armstrong 6, Coach Danny McMinim.

HEIDELBERG 1 (Ketsakidis 63rd) FOOTSCRAY JUST 0 at Olympic Park last Saturday night. Referee: Barry Grant 7. Caution: Deesley (H). Crowd: about 3,000.

HEIDELBERG: Oliver 6 — Pappas 7, Ketsakidis 7, Semelikis 7, Marley 6 — Kotsopoulos 7, Lucchesi 7, Tasikakis 7 — McKenna 8, Anastasiadis 7, Marley 6 — Deesley 7, Coach: Ray Kotsopoulos.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Vlajnic 8 — Curovic 7, Barjaktarevic 6, Karic 6, Petrovski 7 — Tapai 7, James 7, Milosevic 6 (H. T. Burlak 6) — Lazopoulos 6, Spink 6, Lujic 7, Coach: Dragoslav Sekularac.

Forget about offside

**Man of the match:
MARK BROWN
(Croydon)**

**Green Gully 1
Croydon 0**
Scorer: Ward 5th.

"They (Croydon) should have strolled us in the first half but we came back in the second half. That was them at their best and us at our worst but we got the result, which is a sign of a good team," said Green Gully coach Gus Macleod after this match.

Macleod was realistic enough to admit that Croydon should have won.

Croydon coach Jim Tansey agreed but while most observers already are making Gully favorite for the State League title, Tansey thinks Croydon has just as much chance of winning.

"Our lads were more confident about tackling Gully in the league after this game than they were before the match. They know now that Gully's nothing special," said Tansey.

It was a soft goal that sunk Croydon. How Danny Ward could be unmarked so close to the Croydon goal must be a worry for Tansey. Just five minutes had gone when Ward headed in a Stuart Cannell cross that should have been attacked by Croydon goalkeeper Keith Waterman.

Shortly after, Graham French, who had a fine game, struck the ball wide from the left of the Gully area. He should at least have been on target.

Then came the first of five offside incidents where play was waved on. It was really remarkable. Players weren't just barely offside, I'm talking of metres offside, yet the linesman wasn't flagging and referee Andy Frangou, probably heading the fellow official, kept letting play continue.

Mark Brown, a treacherous player, was the culprit. Scott Fraser, won the ball in the air then lobbed it forward to French in the 27th minute. French was offside. Clearly, he headed the ball to team mate David Brogan, also clearly offside, and Brogan volleyed over the bar. Had he scored the goal would have stood.

Then we really would have had a story to tell for Macleod would have had smoke coming out of his ears and it wouldn't have come from one of those cigars he's becoming renowned for puffing on either.

Five minutes later, Brogan again clearly offside, broke through only to lob the ball over the advancing Lou Dennis and wide of the far post.

Just before half-time, Gully's new Scottish recruit Joe O'Donnell, the former Stranraer captain, was scythed down by Jimmy Nelson. The Croydon midfielder was booked and O'Donnell had to be replaced during the interval due to suspected ligament damage.

The second half wasn't anything to write home about. Not the action but the way held away. But it was here plenty going on in the Press box. It's your turn for Schwabini this week. Schwabini.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE



• Charlie Egan of Hu... Here he steadies to won this match 6-0

Improv... can down

Falcons no to AIS

**Man of the match:
MARK TALAJIC
(Croatia)**

**Croatia 0
George Cross 0**

In all likelihood Melbourne Croatia and

Was it worth the effort?

**Man of the match:
MARK TALAJIC
(Croatia)**

**Croatia 0
George Cross 0**

In all likelihood Melbourne Croatia and

Falcons no to AIS

Buffalo State League clubs, among them Green Gully, Croydon City, St Albans Dinamo and Springvale, have all said they will make the

Three of the undecided clubs are Northcote,

The AIS's first game is against Springvale on Monday, 20th April. Ross Smith, the club's keepering advisor, says: "We have been taking positive sponsors but are still a couple of weeks from announcing anything. The AIS plans to offer prizemoney for each game played at the Bruce Stadium in Canberra."

Dennis Morovic also had a fine chance when just a minute

ago he headed the ball past the

— JOHN MANGAN

VSF TRAVEL CLUB MEMBERS

**\$\$\$ SAVE \$\$\$ SAVE \$\$\$ SAVE
LOW FARES TO THE UK**

DEPARTURE DATES:

	OFFICIAL FARE:	OUR FARE:	SAVE\$\$\$
APRIL 4	\$1899	\$1649	\$250
MAY 17	\$1999	\$1679	\$320
JUNE 14,28	\$2099	\$1679	\$420
JULY 5,19,26	\$2099	\$1670	\$429
AUGUST 16	\$1999	\$1679	\$320
SEPTEMBER 20	\$1899	\$1649	\$250
DECEMBER 21	\$2099	\$1679	\$420

Also Special Fares to Amsterdam — SAVE up to \$440

BOOK NOW AND SAVE LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

**AMETCO TRAVEL
20 Market Street
Box Hill Vic 3128
Tel: 898 0731**

**AMETCO TRAVEL
20 Whitehorse Road
Ringwood Vic 3134
Tel: 870 5066**

JOHN MANGAN

DETAILS PLAYER OF THE SERIES

delberg's Theo Selemidis was joined at the top of the Player of the table by St Albans Dinamo defender Rob Krajacic who earned a num three points in his team's game against Juventus last esday, and Nick van Egmond who scored a hat-trick for Preston donia on the weekend. These three players are on six points.

A panel of soccer writers which judges the award also rated Mark c's performance highly in Croatia's game against George Cross to fourth place on five and a half points. The votes for this round as follows:

St Albans Dinamo: 3 — Douglas (GG); 2 — Brown M. (CC); 1 — nnel (GG).

Juventus v St Albans Dinamo: 3 — Krajacic (St A.D.); 2 — Duzel (St 0.5 — Lewis (J), Rastocic (St A.D.).

Melbourne Hellas v Box Hill: 3 — Crainie (SM-H); 2 — Egan I); 1 — Kalogeros (SM-H).

George Cross v Melbourne Croatia: Talajic (MC); 2 — Gilder (GC); 1 — bell (MC).

St Albans Dinamo v Frankston Pines: 3 — Van Egmond (PM); 2 — (PM); 2 — Miller (FP).

delberg v Footscray JUST: 3 — Vlajnic (JUST); 1.5 — Ketsakidis Tapal (JUST).

idng vote-getters:

Krajacic (St A.D.), Selemidis (H), Van Egmond (PM); 5.5 — Talajic

— Brown M. (CC), Crainie (SM-H); 4 — Silvskas (PM), Egan (SM-H); 3 — Gilder (GC).

Group A standings

	W	D	L	F	A	PT
akedonia	2	1	0	6	2	5
Croatia	2	1	0	3	0	5
ge Cross	1	2	0	3	1	4
ventus	1	0	2	2	4	2
xPines	0	1	2	2	6	1
. Dinamo	0	1	2	0	3	1

Group B standings

	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Hellas	3	0	0	11	1	6
n Gully	2	0	1	3	1	4
delberg	2	0	1	3	2	4
Hill	1	0	2	1	B	2
ondon	0	1	2	1	3	1
is. JUST	0	1	2	1	5	1

g JUST n Gully



will be keen to add to his goal tally against Croydon, or with Box Hill goalie McKinlay closing in. Hellas Croydon has a huge task ahead of it. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

form in tonight's or George Cross, can get his game 3 thoughts is Pines meant.

contain every side should be able to ke the points.

Waterman won't ay night. That's comes up against e we they dealt ght would make

ing so far in this night to give Croy- which they dealt

scors with four he'll be looking

will also have to Richard Miranda

at form last week d is in doubt for

he will be keen to us but this is not a great number

y night pits Mel-

Albans Dinamo, as unlucky not to ame and though the board so far

in this year's Buffalo Cup, it would only take a bit of luck to turn this game Dinamo's way.

Ivan Duzel is in good form for Dinamo in the middle of the park and Rob Krajacic has been impressive in the back-line.

A man the St Albans Dinamo defence has to cut out is Paul Lewis who has scored all three of Croatia's goals in this year's Buffalo Cup campaign.

Midfielder Mark Talajic has been the team's star performer however and his long throws have caused no end of problems for opposition defences.

The second game on Saturday night is between Preston Makedonia — the new glamour team of Group A, after its 4-2 victory over Frankston Pines which took it to the top of the group standings — and Brunswick United Juventus, which was lucky to notch up its first win in the competition last week with a victory over St Albans Dinamo.

Juventus coach Len McKendry has plenty of options in midfield and with new signing Luciano Fabrizio looking useful, he will be hoping that his team can keep up the good work, but this time play a bit more convincingly.

Though it was Nick van Egmond who got the swag of goals, Steve Gojdic and George Silvskas were also dangerous and with their confidence running high will be difficult to stop.

He should consolidate his position at the top of the group and cut short Juventus's revival in the competition. Bill Murray's team just has to make sure that it doesn't suffer the lapse in concentration that was almost its undoing last week against Pines.

Danny Crainie carried off, easy win for Hellas

SM-Hellas 6 Box Hill 0

Scorers: Egan 15th, Blair 18th, Wright 34th, Stevenson 53rd, Kalogeros 58th.

This was merely a training run for Hellas but a costly one as star midfielder Danny Crainie had to be carried off in the second half after a clash with Box Hill right back Gary McPhee.

Crainie and McPhee lay on the pitch motionless as play continued. McPhee was able to resume after treatment, which was just as well for Box Hill which had only one reserve and already had used him. Crainie wasn't as fortunate as McPhee and was carried to the dressing room.

It would be easy to think that either Box Hill doesn't care much about the Buffalo Cup or it lacked players. It could be both.

After a few assessments, Joe Mori was the Hillmen's sole substitute and had come on for Andrew Mazzagatti in the 45th minute. Had McPhee been unable to continue after his collision with Crainie later in the game, Box Hill would have faced the rather embarrassing prospect of having to play with 10 men for the remainder of the contest.

Not that the word "contest" was applicable after Charlie Egan opened the scoring in the 16th minute.

But Box Hill could have been 2-0 up after just six minutes.

In the second minute, Damien Mori earned well past Manolis Anemosis who shot out an arm and blatantly pushed Mori in the chest. Referee Ellis was 10 metres away yet waved play on. Within seconds, Ellis erred again when George Kalogeros was flattened inside the Box Hill area. Again Ellis was well positioned. Again Ellis

Four minutes later Mazzagatti sent Damien Mori clear on the right. Mori's far post cross was headed square by Barry Burton and Mazzagatti's first time shot struck a defender, luckily for Hellas.

The goal that started the avalanche came when the Hillmen failed to clear effectively following a long throw-in. Egan, the master opportunist, was on hand to hammer it home on the turn from just six metres.

Two minutes later it was 2-0. Bobby Russell was awarded a free kick by referee Colin Ellis that Russell shouldn't have won. Crainie sent the ball low to the far post and the incoming Paul Wade missed with what should have been a simple tap-in. But Steve Blair didn't.

One minute before the interval, Egan easily went past Steve Brimmer near the backline on the right. Egan cut the ball back to the near post and Darren Wright knocked it home from four metres.

But Box Hill could have been 2-0 up after just six minutes. In the second minute, Damien Mori, who never gave up and deserves credit for running himself into the ground even when the match was well and truly out of the Hillmen's reach, broke through only to strike the ball straight to Peter Laumets.

From the 44th minute, young Damien Mori earned well past Manolis Anemosis who shot out an arm and blatantly pushed Mori in the chest. Referee Ellis was 10 metres away yet waved play on. Within seconds, Ellis erred again when George Kalogeros was flattened inside the Box Hill area. Again Ellis was well positioned. Again Ellis

waved play on. It was a deflating penalty.

But it didn't bother Hellas.

Stuart Stevenson replaced Wright in the 45th minute and scored the best goal of the game in the 53rd minute. Richard Miranda, in fine form in the Buffalo Cup, played a great ball to Crainie on the left.

Crainie's far post cross was measured to the inch. It was

met by a tremendous Steven-

son leap and a header that was superbly directed and timed to make it 4-0.

Five minutes later Kalogeros strode past a few defenders and Box Hill goalie John McKinlay and casually slammed the ball into the unguarded goal to make it 5-0.

Egan completed the score-

line in the 60th minute thanks

to a delightfully weighted and delicately curved through ball from Crainie. Egan rounded McKinlay and tapped the ball into goal.

Box Hill had been made to look very ordinary. Maybe the six players who warmed up in 38 degrees Celsius 20 minutes before the match were put out when the real action began.

— CRAIG MAC KENZIE

Richard Miranda — his outstanding midfield play has taken Hellas to a clear lead in Group B in the Buffalo Cup.

Danny Crainie — brilliant in Hellas's 6-0 victory over Box Hill, but carried off with an injury.

HAT-TRICK FOR VAN EGMOND

Makedonia 4 Frank. Pines 2

Scorers: van Egmond 21st,

37th, 63rd, Silvskas 8th (PM);

Miller 40th, Ross 57th (FP).

Makedonia raced to the

top of Group A thanks to a

hat-trick from blond

striker Nick van Egmond.

Nick Egmond was in scintillating form as was his team-mate George Silvskas who netted Makedonia's other goal.

But even though Prested led all day, his grip on the game was severely shaken early in the second half when goals

from Craig Miller and Jimmy Ross converted a solid 3-0 lead to a suddenly uncertain 3-2 advantage.

Silvskas got Makedonia's first goal, pushing the ball under Pines' goalkeeper Dennis Boland as it ran loose in the penalty area.

But the ball from Ross went

right across the face of Makedonia's goal but Miller was there on the far side to steer it back into the net from the most acute of angles.

From then on though it was all van Egmond for Billy Makedonia.

In the 21st minute, Cole knocked the ball from the right for van Egmond to hit on the turn and in the first minute of the second half he used his head to put a Steve Gojdic header in the back of the net.

Pines, bolstered by the return of Victorian Rothmans Media, winning start, Ally Dick, went down but not out.

A bad ball from Ross went

right across the face of Makedonia's goal but Miller was

there on the far side to steer it back into the net from the most acute of angles.

Suddenly Pines were back in the match when Richie Armstrong struggled to control the ball but managed to centre it to Ross who converted from close range.

Van Egmond though saved

1987 GORBALS CUP

Former Socceroo and current chairman of the VSF, Jack Reilly, will be presenting the trophies at this year's Gorbals Cup competition on Sunday.

The Gorbals Cup, which is in its third year, is run by Lyndale at the Barry Powell Reserve and is an all-day round-robin competition culminating in the final kicking off at 5pm.

The tournament is being sponsored by Cosmos Indoor Soccer Centres and Blic Houses and musical entertainment will be provided by Irish band The

The teams competing are Lyndale, Dingley, Cranbourne, Melbourne Croatia Select, Dundee Select.

BEFORE THE GAME OR AFTER THE ONLY PLACE TO TALK SOCCER WITH THE PLAYERS, COACHES & CRITICS IS

The Windsor Castle

89 ALBERT ST WINDSOR
512547 513462

AUSTRALIA'S ONLY SOCCER HOTEL,

Interstate visitors more than welcome, watch previous week's soccer from U.K. on video every

MONDAY at 4pm TUESDAY at 8.30pm
SUNDAY at 1pm

Match of the Week: CELTIC v ABERDEEN

Order your scotch sausages, pies, bridies or tattie scones.



• Nick van Egmond — Makedonia's hat-trick hero was just too sharp for Pines.

In brief

• Melbourne-Hungaria seems to have abandoned plans to amalgamate with Brighton.

Melbourne seems certain to lose most of last year's first team squad and just 13 players attended a training session last week.

The session was held by Robert Morrey and Lou Theodosopoulos but both players are likely to join other clubs this year. Caledonian looks to sign Morrey while Theodosopoulos will join either Footscray JUST or Green Gully.

• A match between a world all-star side and a team selected from the English league will head the centenary celebrations of the world's oldest soccer league next season.

The match is planned for Wembley on August 8, with the world side being managed by Terry Venables, the Englishman in charge of Spanish league leader Barcelona.

That game will be followed in November by a challenge match between this season's English league and Scottish league champions.

Then, on April 16 and 17 next year, Wembley will stage a six-side knockout competition involving all 92 English League clubs.

Finally, at the end of the season, there will be a tournament for the Centenary Trophy involving the leading eight clubs in Division One at Aston Villa, in recognition of Villa being among the League's pioneers.

• Two Victorian girls have been selected in the Australian Women's youth team which is travelling to America to compete in the Dallas Cup International Tournament in April.



• Gerry Edmondson

Evans, Edmondson and Greechan on the move

Both girls, Denise Wright and Lee-Anne Hamilton, play for Greensborough and are studying at HSC level this year.

This will be the first time that the youth team has played in an international competition and to finance it the Australian Women's Soccer Association is seeking sponsorship from companies. For information on sponsorship phone 222 2223.

The squad is: Bronwyn Colver, Alison Fisher, Katrina Alexander, Lisa Van Dorp, Karin Wilkinson, Sarah Cooper, Gail Pace, Yvonne Mitchell, Yolanda McCarthy, Leanne Edmondson, Denise Wright, Lee-Anne Hamilton, Katrina Barsby, Denie Pentecost, Samantha O'Brien, Kerrie Rowe.

The Australian women's titles are being played in Alice Springs in August and the under-18 titles are being held in Brisbane in July. The Victorian Women's Soccer Association is currently accepting applications for the coaching positions for these two teams up until February 27. For further details phone Debbie on 795 8456 (H) or 605 6275 (W).

• Everton, the first English team to play in France since the Heysel Stadium disaster in Brussels in 1985, beat French First Division club Bordeaux 2-1 in a friendly match last week.

French World Cup midfielder Jean-Marc Ferrer put Bordeaux in front after 10 minutes in the inaugural match at the reconstructed municipal stadium. Everton hit back with goals inside five minutes midway through the second half by Adrian Heath and Ian Snodin.

Snodin later twice saved off his own goal-line with keeper Neville Southall beaten.

A riot triggered by English fans left 39 dead and scores injured at the European Cup Final at Heysel between Juventus of Turin and Everton's neighbour Liverpool.

Liverpool would have played Bordeaux but for an overcrowded program.

European Football Union (UEFA) president Jacques Georges of France said he was



• Alan Evans — leaving Sandringham City?

satisfied with security and there was no crowd trouble at the match.

"English clubs can't always stay out in the cold. We welcome them with open arms as soon as the incidents or hooliganism are controlled," he said.

• Victorian League Second Division club Sandringham looks certain to sign Steve Wild from Melbourne hungaria.

Sandringham has retained the services of former Green Gully winger Bill Morrey as coach but there's doubt about ex-Melbourne Hellas striker Alan Evans staying with the club.

Sandringham announced last week that it had signed a major sponsorship deal with

the Argo hotel and was negotiating another sponsorship deal with a major brewing company.

• Gerry Edmondson is on the move from Melbourne Hungaria.

Edmondson played with Ingleside Kiev in the West Australian State League before coming to Melbourne and joining Hakoah in the late 1970s. He played with Frankston before joining Melbourne and playing an integral part in the success it enjoyed in 1985 when it won its way into the FFA Cup.

Edmondson can play in defence or in midfield and is on a free transfer. He can be contacted during business hours on 359 9166.

• A branch of the world famous Manchester United Supporters' Club has been formed in Melbourne.

The branch received notification recently from Sir Matt Busby of his acceptance of the position of president of the Australasia branch.

The branch plans to provide members with a newsletter, videos, match programs, posters, score cards, scarves, shirts, a pictorial history of Manchester United and a host of other souvenirs.

The branch also will organise group travel tours at discount prices, incorporating United's matches in the UK and Europe and will assist in ticket arrangements for members visiting the UK.

For further information, write to: Secretary, Manchester United Supporters' Club, Australasia branch, PO Box 423, Doncaster 3108, Victoria.

Basic membership costs \$10 per annum with a signing-on fee of just \$5.

• Kit Greechan has been transferred listed by Sunbury United at his own request.

Greechan, 29, is a former Albion Rovers, Western Suburbs and Green Gully player. He has been with Sunbury for the past three seasons and won the club's best and fairest award last year.

Cubs interested in contacting the talented Greechan can phone him during business hours on 316 3120.

O'Donnell impressed by Egan, McKinna

By JOHN MANGAN

"I really didn't know what to expect when I came out to Australia," says Joe O'Donnell, Green Gully's recent signing from Scottish club Stranraer, "but I needed a break from my club back home so I thought, well, I might as well give it a try on its here."

O'Donnell touched down on Australian soil last July and although he was too late to sign with a club last year it gave him plenty of time to meet a few people in the Melbourne soccer scene.

Then at the end of last season O'Donnell came to the attention of Gully coach Gus Macleod when he played in the Scottish team in the Qantas World Cup. That team was coached by Macleod.

Since then O'Donnell has trained with Brunswick Juniors and Heidelberg and South Melbourne Hellas.

O'Donnell's most pressing concern was that he needed to sign up with a club straight away so that he could sort out his visa requirements and, understandably, coaches were reluctant to commit themselves without having seen him play a few games.

Macleod however had seen enough in the Qantas World Cup to convince him that O'Donnell was worth snapping up.

"I had a bit of trouble getting Stranraer to release me to Green Gully — they thought I was here on a holiday and in the end Gus (Macleod) had to speak to them and convince them that I really intended staying here."

O'Donnell is an electrician by trade. He has got a job now and is applying for permanent residency. He is full of praise for Macleod and the people at Green Gully who have helped him to settle down here.



• Joe O'Donnell: "I'm very optimistic about Green Gully's prospects this season."

In fact, the likeable Scot has been impressed generally by how friendly the Australians he has met are.

"At all the clubs I trained with the lads have been really friendly and made me feel right at home. You're only there for a few hours and you're one of the boys. It's great!"

O'Donnell distinguished himself in his three years with Stranraer, coming runner-up to the winner of the club's player of the year award.

Towards the end of last season he was appointed club captain.

By the end of last season though things were changing. A lot of his friends in the team had moved on and he was keen to try his luck in a higher division. Although a number of clubs made offers for him, among them Kilmarnock, Partick Thistle, Morton and Hamilton Academicals, none of them could reach agreement with Stranraer which, depending on the interest expressed, was asking as much as \$50,000 for him.

But now O'Donnell is here and he has already tasted the hard edge of Australian soccer.

"I was practically injury-free in all my time at Stranraer but I've only played a few games here — in the World Cup I sprained my ankle and then in my first game for Gully

last week against Croydon I damaged my medial ligaments."

Is that because the Australian game is tougher?

"Not at all," says O'Donnell. "It's simply that I've been out of the game for a few months so I'm still returning to full match fitness."

The players who have caught his eye in his short time here have been Charlie Egan and Laurie McKinna and he makes no bones about the fact that his ambition is to be playing with them in the West End National League as soon as possible.

Obviously the best way to achieve that goal is by having a successful season this year with Gully.

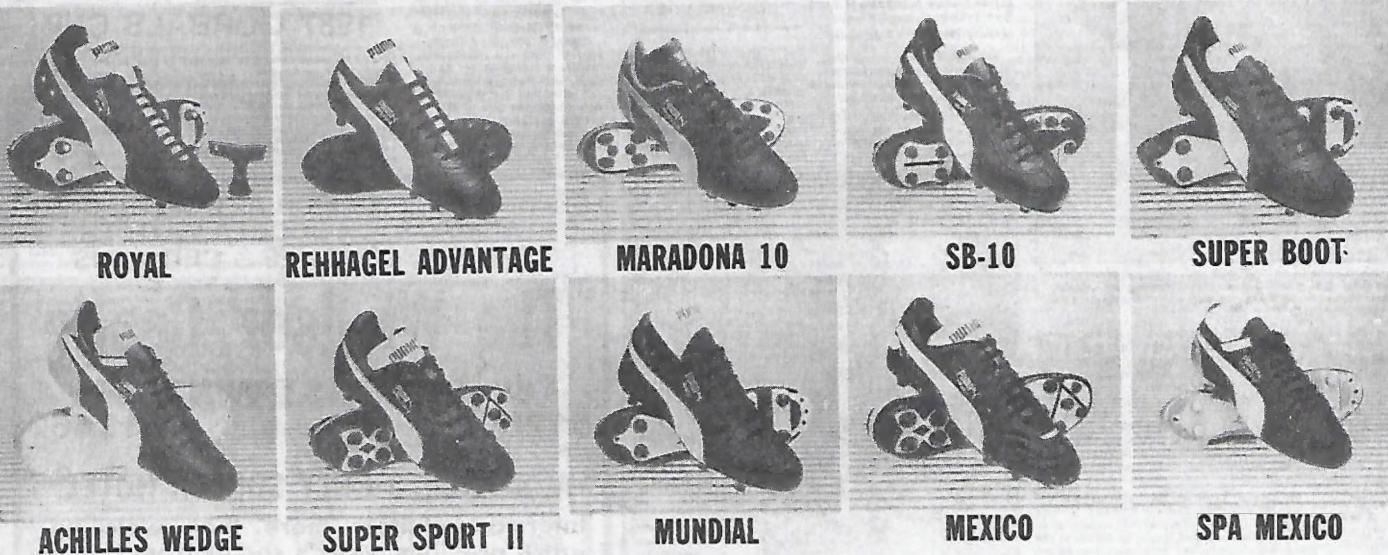
"The team's not playing that well at the moment but we're still winning and that's usually a good sign. I'm very optimistic about Green Gully's prospects this season from what I've seen."

And when can we expect to see O'Donnell back in action?

"Well, I'm seeing a physio at the moment and the latest I've heard is that it will be between 10 days and four weeks before I can play again."

And then we all might see O'Donnell hit top form. Certainly an exciting prospect for all Gully fans.

SPORTS EXTRA RANGE



SPORTS EXTRA
66 BRIDGE RD, RICHMOND
(03) 429 3079

(Interstate & country orders welcome)



INDOOR SOCCER

NEW TEAMS WANTED

COMPETITIVE — SOCIAL — MIXED — LADIES — JUNIORS
SEVERAL GRADES — TOP PRIZES

WAVERLEY

(Slough Estate)

544 6949
60/170 FORSTER RD,
MT WAVERLEY

FOOTSCRAY

318 4334

1 MEPHAN ST,
FOOTSCRAY

THOMASTOWN

465 6848

14 MILNE ST,
THOMASTOWN

ALSO COMING UP

INDOOR WORLD SERIES CUP

MAJOR PRIZES TO BE WON

(DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED)

BETTER THAN BUTRAGUENO, BRIEGEL AND PFAFF

At approximately the same time that Peter Taylor's inclusion in the Australian test cricket side was puzzling sports fans on this side of the world, their northern hemisphere counterparts were equally mystified by the selection of Igor Belanov as European Footballer of the Year.

The Europeans may not have chorused: 'Igor who?' because memories of his hat-trick against Belgium during the 1986 World Cup Finals were too vivid, but the first impression would have been that a number of candidates had better qualifications for the award.

World Cup leading scorer Gary Lineker, Spain's lethal striker Emilio Butragueno, Belanov's compatriot Alexandre Zavarov, West German powerhouse Hans Peter Briegel and the Belgian pair of Jean-Marie Pfai and Jan Ceulemans all initially appeared to be more appropriate.

Yet, Belanov topped the poll with a healthy majority and a closer scrutiny of his exploits during 1986 shows that no other player exerted himself in such a manner as the Dynamo Kiev and USSR striker — over World Cup, European championship, European club competitions and domestic tournaments.

History, it can be predicted with a fair amount of confidence, will judge Belanov to be a worthy successor to the Dutchman, Lev Yashin, George Best, Johan Cruyff and the other legendary figures who have been crowned Europe's best and the journalists who participated in the poll just as inspired in their choice as the Aussie cricket selectors with Peter Taylor!

Belanov's story is an unusual one for a star Soviet footballer in that he did not attend any of the numerous soccer schools strewn across the USSR which produce an endless stream of talent for the Soviet Supreme League clubs. His soccer education was provided by games with other children from the Odessa neighbourhood he grew up in, which were staged in a local courtyard and went on into the evening.

While playing for his housing estate in the nationwide "Leather Ball" competition for



Overseas round-up
with PAUL MOON

juniors, he was spotted by Edward Moloyevski, the coach of Chernomeres ('Black Sea') Odessa. As Belanov reflected during a recent interview: "With him it all began. He was my first proper coach and he I am eternally grateful."

After graduating quickly through the Chernomeres ranks and selected for the young striker, just had established himself in its senior side when it was time for his two years of compulsory military service and, with it, a couple of seasons playing for the Odessa Army Club.

Upon finishing his army stint, Belanov was approached by Dynamo Kiev coach Valery Lubanovsky, the second most influential of his career, to join the illustrious Dynamo. To most outsiders, it would have seemed a golden opportunity as Chernomeres were a mediocre team with little chance of bettering themselves while Kiev had long been an established power in European club competitions. Yet, Belanov, fearing homesickness, turned it down.

After one more season at Chernomeres, Belanov was again offered the chance to move to Dynamo. This time he accepted, but, upon completing an initial training session under Lubanovsky, far more arduous than anything previously encountered, considered returning home.

Through sheer application, the South Ukrainian attained the fitness required of him, but it wasn't until his wife and baby daughter were permitted to move to Kiev that he joined the city.

Belanov made his debut for Dynamo at the beginning of the 1985 Soviet League season. Two superb strikes against Spartak Moscow early in the campaign marked him as a player of exceptional ability and goals followed regularly as Lubanovsky successfully moulded the second great Kiev Year.

With 1987 promising so much for Dynamo Kiev and the USSR, both currently in devastating form, Belanov should be given plenty of opportunities to prove beyond any remaining doubt that he fully deserves the accolade of European Footballer of the Year.



Igor Belanov, with the Rest of the World team that played against the Americas last year in a charity match staged in Pasadena. Back row: Butcher, Amoros, Stielike, Dossaev, Lerby, Magath, Timoumi, Hermann. Front: Strachan, Jennings, Renquin, Park, Rocheteau, Belanov, Rossi.

Is Gullit as good as Maradona?

PSV Eindhoven, financed as it is by the electronics giant Phillips, has spent a lot of money on players over the last two years.

The Danes Ivan Nielsen and Frank Arnesen and the Belgian Eric Gerets, who all played in Mexico, have come to Eindhoven. Dutch internationals Hans van Breukelen and Rene van der Gijp also joined PSV.

But to the public they are merely the people who line up with Ruud Gullit.

Gullit is 24 years old. He has 20 caps. Of Dutch West Indian origin, his main characteristics are his size (extra large) and his Rasta dreadlocks.

His professional career started at 16, with Haarlem. Haarlem's Welsh manager Harry Hughes was impressed by him, and unless he said so. As a result Manchester United was after him before he was, at 17, in 1982, however, at 19, Gullit joined Feyenoord, Holland's Man United. He stayed there for three years and made his debut for Holland.

He joined PSV in 1985. Feyenoord's fans called him a mercenary, but Gullit said he simply wanted to play in a better team. Feyenoord was not even a contender for the Dutch championship.

PSV was gunning for a European Cup, but Gullit was suspended after being sent off in the first round, and without him PSV was beaten by Dinamo Pragovsk in the second round.

He is the player PSV can least afford to miss. Although playing as sweeper last season he scored 27 goals and set up many more.

Usually his attacking impulse comes from his Beckenbauer-like rushes from defence.

He will beat five or six opponents and then release a frightening drive or reach the goal-line to score.

The way he feels opponents is interesting. He doesn't. He just runs past them, losing their presence.

His long strides prevent others from keeping up with him. On one such run for Feyenoord against Alkmaar he ran from one penalty area to the other to sidefoot a goal. Nobody so much as touched him.

No wonder he was chosen the Dutch Players' Footballer of the Year last year.

Gullit must be the best player not to have appeared in Mexico. Like George Best, he is the star of a weak national side.

Team-mate Gerets, whose Belgian team reached the semi-finals, said: "Ruud Gullit is an exceptional player. I saw nobody like him in Mexico."

PSV's manager, Hans Kraay, said straight out: "Gullit is as good as Maradona."

But despite his great skill, something may be missing. Does Gullit have the competitive drive which a great sportsman must have?

In 1983 he said: "I don't feel the urge to win. If we win it's fine, and if we lose deservedly I don't mind."

He admitted that after Belgium eliminated Holland from the World Cup in a play-off he slept very well, thank you.

Holland's irascible manager Rinus Michels ("Football is War") lambasted him so severely one would have thought Gullit had slept during the match itself.

Gullit claims to be more competitive now, but one cannot picture him sobbing on Michels' shoulder after a defeat. He would more probably be strumming a guitar and singing gentle love songs beside an Amsterdam canal.

He comes from bohemian Amsterdam and his single 'Not the Dancing Kind' reached the top ten although it does not have a footballing theme.

His song-writer says of him: "He hasn't got Iglesias' timbre, but then he's more rhythmic. He could stop playing football and become a pop star."

But Gullit has no more musical ambitions. He may be a man of single-minded footballer today than he once was, but if PSV or Holland don't have a lot of success this year, it probably won't keep Gullit awake at night.



Ruud Gullit of PSV Eindhoven. His manager says Gullit "is as good as Maradona."

Burkinshaw at Sporting Lisbon Aragones back

Former Tottenham Hotspur manager Keith Burkinshaw has been appointed coach of Sporting Lisbon.

Albert Roosens, Secretary General of the Belgian football federation, has been charged with "manslaughter through negligence" following the riots at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels two years ago in which 39 people died. Roosens supervised ticket sales.

Progressos has qualified for the Libertadores Cup for the first time by winning a play-off among the Uruguayan league's top four clubs.

Hungarian World Cup de-

fender Antal Roth has moved from Pecs to Holland's Feyenoord for a \$200,000 transfer fee.

Former Leeds United and England wing Eddie Gray is the latest manager at Rochdale, an English Fourth Division club which has had 17 men in charge of it since 1945.

Sydney City Hakoah's Cliff Gosling was included in the New Zealand squad for a four-game series against Soviet

Dynamo Minsk which began on February 8.

O Luis Aragones has resumed as coach of Athletic Madrid, having replaced the post-haste while suffering from severe depression, but was persuaded to return when the second of his successors was dismissed.

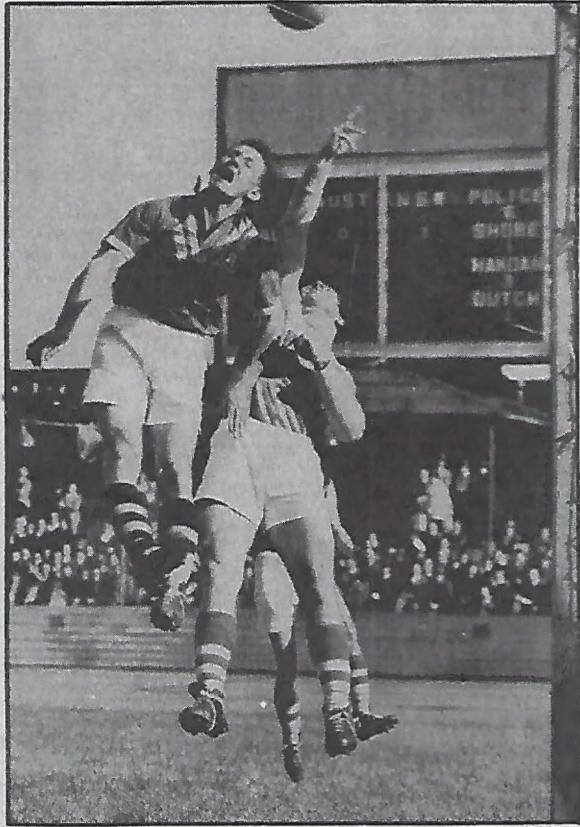
The draw for the fifth round of the English FA Cup is Arsenal v Barnsley, Wimbledon v Everton, Tottenham Hotspur v Newcastle United,

Walsall v Watford, Stoke City v Coventry City, Leeds United v Queen's Park Rangers, Wigan Athletic v Hull City, Shrewsbury Wednesday v West Ham United. The matches will be played on the mornings of February 22 and 23, Australian time.

• The USSR won the Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup for the third successive year when defeating Bulgaria 2-0 in the final at Kozhikode.

• The venue for this year's European Cup Winners' Cup Final on May 13 has been switched from Rotterdam to the Olympic Stadium, Athens. UEFA feared crowd violence had Rotterdam retained the fixture.

BLASTS FROM THE PAST



• NSW goalkeeper Ron Lord (right) punches the ball clear before Australian forward Frank Parsons can head it in. This clash, in September 1950, ended in a surprising 3-0 win for NSW at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Parsons was one of the most prolific goalscorers in the history of soccer in NSW and in later years turned to soccer administration. Lord still is regarded as the greatest ever goalkeeper to wear the green and gold.



• George Cross forward "Ginger" Caesar is down and almost out. He can't believe that he's missed this chance to push the ball into the unguarded goal. In the background is South Melbourne Hellas goalkeeper Tanayotis Tsitsos. This was the 1960s, a golden era for both clubs, a time when George Cross won the Australia Cup and Hellas won championships galore.



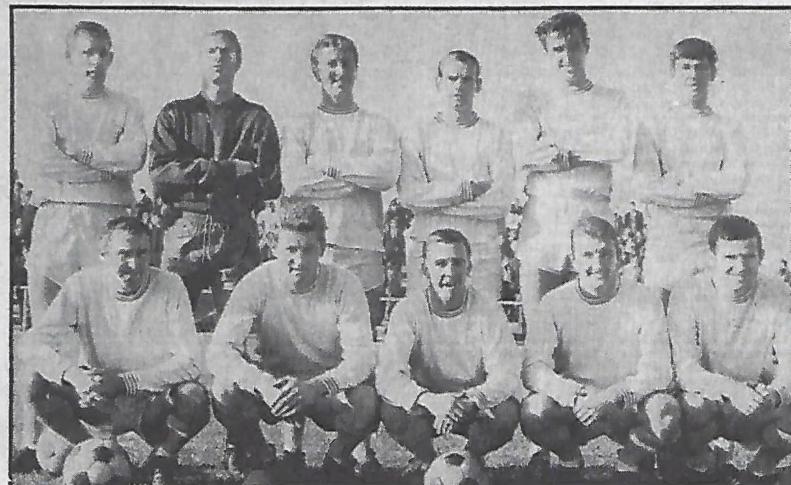
• The now defunct Slavia in 1980. Back row: Tony Vrzina, John Cullen, Mick McGorian, Davie Griffiths, Paul Wade, Rajko Bjelica, Fred Neri, Liam Houston, Danny Ward, Harry Chalkitis, Kaz Kowalec. Front row: Cliff Whiteside, Billy Brindle, Daryl Gooch, Paul Cooke, Stevie Lawson, Andy Golby, Neville Haupt, David Pye.



• Norman Conquest was Australia's goalkeeper during its greatest ever humiliation in a soccer field. England defeated Australia 17-0 at the SCG in the 1950s.



• Roger Romanowicz at Socceroo training in 1967, two days before making his debut for the national team in goal against New Zealand. He had just turned 20 then. Romanowicz was born in Germany and was three years old when he came to Australia. He played Australian Rules football until a group of friends talked him into switching to soccer. He joined Polonia Adelaide when he was 16.



• The name Hakah no longer exists in Victorian soccer but it remains one of that State's greatest ever clubs. Above here's a shot of the mighty Hakah side of all times. Back row: Dick van Alphen, Mike O'Hare, Alan Mumford, George Keith, Ian Monan, Jim Armstrong. Front row: Alex Purdie, John O'Neill, Ted Smith, Keith Fry, Alan Stenhouse. Keith went on to make 22 Socceroo appearances, his first in 1967 against New Zealand. Armstrong made four Socceroo appearances while van Alphen's 10-game national team stint started in 1967 against New Zealand and ended in 1968 against Japan.



• Slovan Bratislava toured Australia in 1966 and boasted seven Czechoslovakian internationals. They were, from left: Joseph Adamec, Ludovit Cvetler, Anton Urban, Jan Popluhar, Alexander Horvath, Joseph Fillo and Willie Schroff.



• This certainly is an historic picture. The cynics will say that it's because there's a crowd at Bruce Stadium and certainly, we don't see sights like this in Canberra nowadays. It's May 6, 1978, the date of Canberra City's 0-0 draw with Marconi in the Phillips League. The man in action is the great Peter Marinello who was guesting with Canberra at the time. Marinello was a former Hibs and Arsenal player once described as the new George Best. Incidentally, there were 6,416 people at this game. My, how things change.



BUFFALO SPORTS

OFFICIAL SPONSOR
TO V.S.F.



PROUD TO SPONSOR

THE 1987 BUFFALO GOLD CUP

4th ROUND at OLYMPIC PARK No. 1

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18 KO 7.15

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER

VS

BOX HILL

FOLLOWED BY

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS

VS

FRANKSTON PINES

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20 KO 7.15

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

VS

CROYDON CITY

FOLLOWED BY

MELBOURNE CROATIA

VS

ST ALBANS DINAMO

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21 KO 7.15

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T.

VS

GREEN GULLY

FOLLOWED BY

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

VS

PRESTON MAKEDONIA